

Northwest Association of Accredited Schools Accreditation Standard IX – Teacher Load

PRINCIPLE:

Student-to-teacher ratio is a crucial element in ensuring effective education. Standards that define adequate ratios are necessary to protect this principle. There are many desirable educational objectives that can be only achieved through close personal interaction between teachers and students. Class size has a direct impact upon the achievement of students.

MIDDLE LEVEL AND HIGH SCHOOLS ONLY

A. Maximum Teacher Load

The Northwest Association requires that no school **shall** show excessive teacher load.

1. All teachers have the equivalent of one preparation period per day.
2. List teachers with an excessive assignment (i.e., those who do not have the equivalence of one preparation period per day). The library media center, guidance, and study hall are considered assigned responsibilities.
 - a. Explain excessive assignments. (Attach separate sheet if necessary.)
3. List teachers with excessive class loads. **The total number of students instructed by any one teacher in any one grading period shall not exceed 160 for traditional school schedule, 140 for trimester school schedules, and 180 for block school schedules.**

Utah only: 187 for traditional school schedule, 163 for trimester school schedules, and 210 for block school schedules.

*Discount formulas **shall** be applied where applicable (keyboarding and physical education are computed at 2/3 of the actual student count; band, chorus, and orchestra are computed at 1/2 or 30 students, whichever is smaller; and study hall is computed at 15 students regardless of actual enrollment). Paraprofessionals can be calculated in this item according to the formula that follows. Non-professional and/or paraprofessional assistants who help with instruction may be included in computing the student-teacher ratio. Such assistance may be substituted for no more than 10 percent of the teacher positions for the purpose of computing student-to-teacher ratio. **Three such full-time assistants shall be the equivalent of one teacher.***

Example for keyboarding:

Number of Teachers	Number of Students	(Formula) X 66%	Sum
1	210	X 66%	139

- a. Explain excessive class loads below or attach a separate sheet.